

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chairman Jeff Essmann, on March 3, 2009 at
8:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jeff Essmann, Chairman (R)
Sen. Taylor Brown, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Ron Erickson (D)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Kim Gillan (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Bob Story Jr. (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 317, 1/30/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 317

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:37 Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 317, Increase non-cigarette tobacco taxes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:25 Cliff Christian, representing American Heart Association and American Stroke Association

00:10:13 Joy Bruck, volunteer advocate, representing AARP Montana

EXHIBIT (tas47a01)

00:11:59 Kathy McGowan, representing American Cancer Society and Cancer Action Network

00:15:21 Erin MacLean, representing Montana Medical Association

EXHIBIT (tas47a02)

00:20:05 John Mudd, Executive Counsel, State Auditor's Office

00:22:40 Mary Beth Frideres, representing Montana Primary Care Association

00:25:21 Dick Paulsen, representing American Lung Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:26:36 Mark Staples, representing Montana Wholesale Distributors

00:29:06 Brenda Brewer, Owner, The Man Stores, Helena

EXHIBIT (tas47a03)

00:31:33 Tom Ault, Owner, Hi Line Wholesale Company, Wolf Point

00:33:58 Mark Baker, representing USTPA, United States Smokeless Tobacco, an Altria Company (USTPA)

EXHIBIT (tas47a04)

EXHIBIT (tas47a05)

00:38:35 Jerome Anderson, attorney, representing Reynolds America, the successor to R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company

EXHIBIT (tas47a06)

00:40:30 Sheldon Feist, Vice President, Sheehan-Majestic, Missoula

00:44:00 Earl Allen, Marketing Coordinator, Hi Noon Petroleum, Missoula

00:45:37 Bob Fairchild, Owner, Smoker's Express

00:46:11 Pat Roylance, Director of Marketing, Thriftway Super Stops

00:46:30 Jon Bennion, representing Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:46:44 Brad Griffin, representing Montana Retail Association

00:46:58 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association

Informational Testimony:

00:47:18 Todd Harwell, Department of Public Health and Human
Services (DPHHS)

00:47:37 Lee Baerlocher, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:48:00 Sen. Tutvedt

00:48:24 Lee Baerlocher, DOR

00:50:09 Sen. Erickson

00:50:43 Mark Baker, USTPA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:53:15 Sen. Kaufmann

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:05 A.M.

Debra Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([tas47aad.pdf](#))